

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 704

INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

COMUSJAPAN YOKOTA

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 7573

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP, PFOR, PINT, JA

SUBJ: SATO FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS

REF: TOKYO 7494

SUMMARY. LATE JUNE 6 WE RECEIVED OFFICIAL WORD THAT SATO "NATIONAL FUNERAL" WILL BE HELD JUNE 16 AT TOKYO'S MARTIAL ARTS HALL FROM 2:00 TO 3:30 P.M. FOREIGN OFFICE CIRCULAR NOTICE ALSO STATES THAT EACH COUNTRY SHOULD LIMIT ITS REPRESENTATION TO TWO REPRESENTATIVES AND THEIR SPOUSES DUE TO SPACE LIMITATIONS. OUR RECOMMENDATIONS FOLLOW. END SUMMARY.

1. LATE JUNE 6 WE FINALLY RECEIVED OFFICIAL FOREIGN MINISTRY CIRCULAR CONTAINING AVAILABLE INFORMATION ABOUT FORMER PRIME MINISTER SATO'S "NATIONAL FUNERAL". MOST IMPORTANTLY, IT WILL BE HELD ON MONDAY, JUNE 16, FROM 2:00 TO 3:30 P.M. AT TOKYO'S MARTIAL ARTS HALL (BUDOKAN).
2. CIRCULAR CONTINUES THAT EACH NATION'S REPRESENTATION SHOULD BE LIMITED TO TWO REPRESENTATIVE PLUS THEIR SPOUSES; REPRESENTATIVES MAY BE EITHER ENVOYS FROM OVERSEAS OR TOKYO HEADS OF MISSION. FOREIGN OFFICE WISHES TO KNOW REPRESENTATION NO LATER
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THAN JUNE 11 (JUNE 10 WASHINGTON TIME).

3. ALTHOUGH JAPANESE WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY VIEW IT AS HIGH COMPLIMENT IF THE VICE PRESIDENT WERE TO PARTICIPATE, NATURE OF

FUNERAL AND WHAT WE HAVE LEARNED THUS FAR OF OTHER NATIONS' PLANS LEAD US TO RECOMMEND THAT HE NOT REPEAT NOT COME. WE SUGGEST, INSTEAD THAT WE BE REPRESENTED BY ONE ENVOY FROM WASHINGTON (AND SPOUSE AND THE AMBASSADOR (AND HIS WIFE). OUR RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE WASHINGTON ENVOY IN ORDER OF OUR PREFERENCE FOLLOW: THE CHIEF JUSTICE, FORMER VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT HUMPHREY, FORMER SECRETARY OF STATE WILLIAM ROGERS.

4. WE ARE UNAWARE NOW OF ANY OTHER FUNCTIONS WHICH WOULD REQUIRE THE PRESENCE OF WASHINGTON ENVOY(S) BEFORE JUNE 16. AS PRACTICAL MATTER, HOWEVER, REPRESENTATIVES MAY WISH TO SCHEDULE JUNE 15 (JUNE 14 WASHINGTON TIME) TOKYO ARRIVAL TO OVERCOME EFFECTS OF JET LAG, ETC.

5. AS FOR OTHER NATIONS, ROK WILL APPARENTLY SEND PRIMER KIM CHONG-PIL, ROC SCHEDULED TO SEND KMT SECRETARY GENERAL AND CHIEF SECRETARY OF EAST ASIAN RELATIONS TAIPEI OFFICE, CANDIDATES ARE CONSIDERING FORMER MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MICHAEL SHARP AMONG OTHERS. WILL PROVIDE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AS IT BECOMES AVAILABLE.
HODSGON

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